

REMARKS

The claims in the application are 1-8 and Claims 21-27 added by the present Amendment.

Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to eliminate the various rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph set forth in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted all pending claims herein should be unequivocally clear in reciting patentable distinctions over the prior art. In this regard, Claims 21-27 introduced herein find clear support throughout the present application and drawings. Reference numerals have been included in all claims to enhance comprehension. Claims 22-24 find explicit support, e.g., in Figs. 1-3 and 6, while Claim 25 finds support in Figs. 5 and 7, and Claim 26 in Fig. 4 and the accompanying description in the application. Claim 27 is directed to recitation deleted from Claim 3.

Accordingly, the only outstanding issue is the art rejection of the claims. More particularly, Claims 1, 6 and 16 (as best understood) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 7-286472 ("JP '472") or JP 8-184254 ("JP '254") in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, while Claims 1 and 7 (as best understood) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,715,574 to Schall in paragraph 5 of the Office Action and Claims 1 and 2 (as best understood) rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,684,453 to Wang in

paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

However, it is respectfully submitted that the invention recited in all claims pending herein is in condition for allowance, for the following reasons (Reference will be made to preferred embodiments of the present invention illustrated in the drawings of the present application).

Firstly, it is respectfully reiterated clarification of all pending claims as requested by the Examiner clearly distinguish the claimed invention over the applied art, so the pending claims should be unequivocally understood. It is respectfully requested the undersigned attorney be contacted by the Examiner should there still be any questions concerning claim language.

Referring to the pending set of claims, the presently-claimed invention is explicitly directed to providing an improved damper for a double-guide 3,4 hinge that comprises four joints 7, 8, 10 and 13/28. In particular, one of these four joints constitutes the damper 13/28, eliminating need for complicated gearing means to transmit damping force.

The features of the presently claimed invention together with the accompanying advantages attained thereby are neither taught nor suggested by the applied art, for the following reasons.

JP '472, JP '254, Schall and Wang all fail to disclose a double guide hinge having a damper forming one of the four hinge joints. It is also respectfully pointed out that, contrary to the assertion in paragraph 6 of the Office Action, axis or pivot pin 73 of Wang fails to form a part of the hinge system comprising the four pivot pins 62, 63, 74 and 75; axis 73 only supports damping cylinder 8.

Accordingly, Wang clearly fails to anticipate the claimed invention comprising, among other features, the damper 13/28 forming one of the four hinge joints in the double-guide hinge.

The remaining art of record has not been applied against the claims and will not be commented upon further at this time.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted all pending claims herein are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below. A petition for an automatic one month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) is enclosed in triplicate together with the requisite petition fee.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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